

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 5, 1848.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. YULEE made the following

REPORT:

*The Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Francis Martin, report:*

The petitioner was a lieutenant of revenue service, and was in the regular course of service ordered upon duty on the coast of Florida pending hostilities with the Indians there. The vessel in which he was, co-operated with the naval vessels on the coast in preventing communication with the Indians from the sea coast, &c. Mr. Martin claims to be allowed a rate of pay equal to a lieutenant in the navy, instead of his regular and legal pay as a lieutenant of revenue service. The committee does not perceive any propriety in the claim. The government has a right to apply the services of its officers as the public interests may require. If the service is not desirable to the officer, he may relinquish it. It is only in cases of extraordinary service, or a very unusual imposition of increased duty and responsibility, that it is deemed proper to provide by special act for increased compensation. An existing statute prohibits all extra compensation to officers of the United States, and that act exhibits the general policy upon which Congress has settled down.

The committee ask to be discharged.

